

### **REMARKS**

Claims 1-42 were previously pending in this application.

Claims 40 and 41 are allowed.

Claims 1-10, 12, 13, 16, 19-23, 27-31, and 42 stand rejected.

Claims 11, 14, 15, 17, 18, 24-26, and 32-39 stand objected to.

Claims 3-7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 16, 19-23, and 27-31 stand rejected under 35U.S.C. 112.

Claims 1, 8, and 42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e).

Claim 2 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claim 2 and allowable claim 3 are cancelled, without prejudice, in favor of claim 1, as amended hereby. Claim 23 is also cancelled.

Claims 1, 4-7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 16, 19-22, and 27-31 are amended.

No new matter is added.

Claims 1, 4-22, and 24-42 remain in the case for reconsideration.

Applicant requests reconsideration and allowance of the claims in light of the above amendments and following remarks.

### **Allowable subject matter**

Applicants thanks the Examiner's indication that claims 3-7 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office Action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Also, claims 9-39 are indicated as allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office Action,

### **Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 112**

Claims 3-7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 16, 19-23, and 27-31 are rejected under 35U.S.C. 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention.

The rejections are respectfully traversed.

The Examiner has argued that claims 3-7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 16, 19-23 and 27-31 recite the term "predetermined," and the use of "predetermined" reads on a nebulous mental step

conducted prior to the manipulative steps of the claimed invention, hence rendering the present process claims unclear in meaning and scope.

Although Applicants do not necessarily agree with the interpretation of the claims by the Examiner, the term “predetermined” has been deleted from claims 3-7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 16, 19-22 and 27-31, to facilitate an allowance of this case.

Thus, the rejections of claims 3-7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 16, 19-22 and 27-31 under 35 USC § 112 are now overcome.

#### **Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102**

Claims 1, 8, and 42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,511,539 B1 Raajimakers (“Raajimakers”).

The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 is amended to recite limitations drawn from allowable claim 3, which is cancelled hereby in favor of amended claim 1. Claim 1, as amended, also includes limitations drawn from claim 2, as an intervening claim, which is also cancelled in favor of amended claim 1.

Thus, Raajimakers does not teach all of the limitations of claim 1. For these reasons, Raajimakers does not anticipate claim 1. Accordingly, claim 1 is allowable. Also, claims 8 and 42, which depend from claim 1 and recite features that are neither taught nor disclosed in the cited references, are also allowable.

#### **Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103**

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Raajimakers in view of U.S. Publication No. 2001/0050039A1, Park (“Park”).

Applicants do not necessarily acquiesce in the Examiner’s specific analysis of Park. Nonetheless, claim 2 is cancelled, without prejudice, in an effort to expedite the allowance. Thus, the rejection is now moot.

For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-2, 4-22, and 24-42 of the application as amended is solicited. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

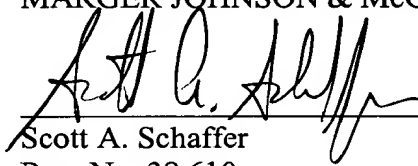


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Respectfully submitted,

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